

Amendments to the Specification (includes Abstract):

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] The damper stiffener 20 is preferably welded to a body member at the back of the opening 20 18 for the rear door. The damper stiffener 20 is another rigidifying reinforcement member incorporated into the automobile body 8 for the purpose of strengthening the automobile body 8. As best seen in Fig. 2, which is a view of the same automobile body 8, but from the opposite side and with all of the automobile body components separated, the damper stiffener 20 attaches to the rear inner panel 30. The rear inner panel has a wheel house 40 to which a component of the suspension, such as a shock absorber, strut or other linkage, is mounted.